tion of 3.25 lakh had been covered in the jhuggie jhonpri clusters till the end of Octooer, 1988.

Shut down of units under the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation

1025. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four fertilizer units under the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation are on the verge of shut down as a result of trade union activities;

(b) if so, what is the precise situation indicating the industrial relations prevailing in these units; and

(c) what steps are being taken and have been taken by Government to avert eventual shut down of the units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir; whereas Barauni, Namrup I, II and III plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation are running, Durgapur plant which was shutdown for annual maintenance in July, has not yet resumed production due to slow progress of maintenance on account of low productivity of labour.

(b) Although there are no maojr industrial relations problems like strike, lockout etc. there are frequent instances of indiscipline affecting adversely productivity and maintenance of the plants.

(c) With a view to identifying the reasons for unsatisfactory performance of Durgapur, Barauni and Namrup I and II Plants. foreign consultants were appointed for their end-to-end survey. The foreign consultants recommended rehabilitation of these plants and their recommendations are being processed for a decision. Captive power plants have been installed at Durgapur and Namrup in order to avoid production loss on account of power cuts/ failures; while at Barauni a captive power plant is under installation.

Incentive for Food Processing Industry

1026. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the increasing potential of foodgrains and food products in the country Government have chalked out a special food processing industries programme to help the farmers and encourage agricultural yield;

(b) if so, whether on September 19, 1988, an economic package offering incentive for both the sectors and for removing impediment has been commenced by Government; if so. the details of the package; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure that the benefits of the incentives and the economic package in general is passed on to the consumer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, Press Note issued in this connection is enclosed. (*See* Appendix CXLVIII, Annexure No. 46.)

(c) Details are being worked out to provide specific incentives

Procurement of basmati rice

1027. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to procure basmati rice under levy system;

(b) if so, what is the procurement price fixed therefor; and what were the reasons leading to this decision; and

(c) what is the reaction of farmers and traders including exporters thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) Levy on basmati rice has been re-introduced to check evasion of levy by